

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

HU *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/472,067

Filed: December 23, 1999

For: **Nucleic Acid Ladders**

Confirmation No.: 8277

Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Zane, Jane J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4340002/RWE/TSC

**Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended three (3) months from October 16, 2003 to January 16, 2004 by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$950.00 for a three (3) month extension for a large entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

01/21/2004 CNGUYEN 00000023 09472067

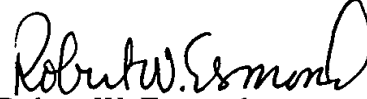
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Esmond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Esmond" clearly distinguishable.

Robert W. Esmond  
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Date: January 16, 2004

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